

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

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R 161430Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL IZMIR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1624

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION NATO

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES IT

USDOCAL SE IZMIR TK

USCINCNAVEUR

USCINCEUR VAINGEN GE

UNCLAS IZMIR 251

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PLOS GR TU

SUBJECT: SISMIK 1/PUTS INTO IZMIR

REF: ANKARA 6262

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1. MTA SISMIK 1, (NEE HORA) ARRIVED AT IZMIR HARBOR AT 1025 A.M.

ON AUG 15 AS SCHEDULED (REFTEL) AND TIED UP BEFORE MAIN MUNICIPAL

SQUARE, WHERE PUBLIC CELEBRATION ENSUED. MINISTRY OF ENERGY

AND NATURAL RESOURCES KILIC, COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER MENTESE, IZMIR

GOV. EGILMEZ, AEGEAN ARMY COMMANDER GEN, SUNALP, IZMIR MAYOR ALYANAK

HEADED GROUP OF NOTABLES WHO WELCOMED THE SHIP AND CREW. SEVERAL

TRADE

UNIONS SENT DELEGATIONS; GROUP FROM TARIS (STATE-CONTROLLED MARKETING

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COOPERATIVE) WORE CAPS AND T-SHIRTS WITH HORA-RELATED INSCRIPTIONS.

GROUPS FROM JUSTICE AND NATIONAL ACTIONS PARTIES ALSO PRESENT, AS WERE CUSTOMARY LARGE NUMBERS OF SUNDAY BAYSIDE SIGHT-SEERS. IN LATE AFTERNOON SISMİK MOVED TO TURKISH MARITIME BANK'S SHIPYARD (ALAYBEY) IN İZMİR SUBURB OF KARSIYAKA FOR "NECESSARY REFUELING AND MAINTENANCE".

2. DIGNITARIES MADE NO SPEECHES IN CONNECTION WITH SISMİK ARRIVAL, BUT MINISTER KILIC, SISMİK'S OFFICERS AND CHIEF GEOPHYSICIST WERE INTERVIEWED BY REPORTERS.

A. KILIC REASSERTED PROPRIETY OF SISMİK'S EXPLORATIONS AND ACCUSED GREEKS OF FORMENTING A POLITICAL ISSUE OVER SISMİK "FOR THEIR SPECIAL PURPOSE". TURKS WOULD NOT BE DETERRED FROM CONTINUING STUDIES SEEKING UNDERWATER RESOURCES "WITHIN

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OUR OWN AND IN INTERNATIONAL WATERS". RE DISPUTED CONTINENTAL SHELF, KILIC REPORTEDLY SAID, "AT THIS POINT, IT IS DEFINITE THAT BETWEEN THE TURKISH SIX MILE AND GREEK SIX MILE LIMITS THERE IS OPEN SEA".

B. SİMİK CAPTAIN METİN NİSANCE SPOKE OF GREEK WAR SHIPS NEVER LEAVING SİMİK'S FLANKS, BUT EXPLORATIONS CONTINUED WITHOUT "GETTING EXCITED". FIRST OFFICER METİN KASAROĞLU ECHOED ENVELOPING PRESENCE OF GREEK SHIPS, STATING THAT ONE BRIEFLY SAILED ALONG STERN WHERE SEISMIC DETONATORS TOWED, BUT "THIS WRONG ACTIVITY DIDN'T LAST LONG AND THE (GREEK) SHIPS VEERED OFF WITHOUT BEING WARNED".

C. CHIEF RESEARCH DIRECTOR, ALTAN NECİOĞLU, TOLD REPORTERS THAT "WITH EXCEPTIONS OF A FEW ELECTRONIC DEFECTS EVERYTHING WENT SMOOTHLY". FINDINGS BEING SENT TO DATA EVALUATION CENTER IN ANKARA.

3. ALL İZMİR NEWSPAPERS GAVE EXTENSIVE FRONT-PAGE COVERAGE WITH PHOTOS OF SİMİK'S ARRIVAL. TONE WAS GENERALLY NATIONALISTIC AND EXULTANT. LEFTIST DEMOKRAT İZMİR INTRODUCED CHARGE THAT SİMİK WAS POLITICAL SHOW-CASE FOR THE GOVERNMENT, BUT THAT "COMMANDOS" FROM NATIONAL ACTIONS PARTY STOLE JUSTICE PARTY'S

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THUNDER (ITEM REFERS TO TARİS WORKERS CITED PARA ONE ABOVE). ON OTHER HAND COLUMNISTS IN YENİ ASİR AND EKSPRES CRITICIZED ECEVİT FOR DISPARAGING DEMİREL ADMINISTRATION'S USE OF SİMİK TO FURTHER TURKISH AEGEAN INTERESTS.

4. ALTHOUGH ENERGY AND RESOURCES MINISTER KILIC REPORTED ON TRT AS STATING SİMİK WOULD DEPART İZMİR AUG 18, LOCAL NEWS-PAPERS REPORT (PER UNATTRIBUTED SOURCES) SHIP WILL SAIL THURSDAY, AUG 19.

MOFFETT

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